



NEWS RELEASE

ARIZONA SUPREME COURT

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Tom Augherton/Cindy Lidman

Public Information Office

Telephone: (602) 542-9656/542-9310

Fax: (602) 542-9484

email: taughert@supreme.sp.state.az.us

clidman@supreme.sp.state.az.us

TOLL FELLOWSHIP SELECTS ARIZONA SUPREME COURT JUSTICE REBECCA WHITE BERCH

PHOENIX, Ariz. – Recognized as one of forty emerging state leaders from across the nation, Arizona Supreme Court Justice Rebecca White Berch has been selected by the Council of State Governments (CSG) for the 2003 class of the prestigious Toll Fellowship Program.

Justice Berch will be traveling to Lexington, Kentucky, in September to participate in the annual program, which is aimed at developing the next generation of leaders from all three branches of government. The Fellowship is named for former Colorado Senator Henry Toll who founded CSG in 1933.

The agenda focuses on trends, critical issues analysis, and professional growth and development. The academically rigorous experience offers these leaders perspectives they would not ordinarily obtain during the course of their regular governmental service.

Justice Berch was nominated for a Toll Fellowship by Supreme Court Chief Justice Charles E. Jones and was selected from a number of outstanding applicants by a committee comprised of state elected and appointed officials as one of the most promising leaders in state government.

The Toll Fellowship alumni list of graduates has grown long and distinguished, including several sitting lieutenant governors, state constitutional officers, legislative leaders, judicial branch officials, agency directors, and many members of Congress. Former Arizona Governor Jane Dee Hull was a Toll Fellow in the 1990s.

Justice Berch came to the Arizona Supreme Court in April 2002 from her previous appointment on the Arizona Court of Appeals and her positions as First Assistant Attorney General and Solicitor General at the Arizona Attorney General's Office. Her undergraduate, graduate, and law degrees were all from Arizona State University.

With regional offices in Atlanta, Chicago, New York, Sacramento, and Washington, D.C., the Council of State Governments is a national nonpartisan, nonprofit public service organization. The Council serves 50 states and five U.S. territories and commonwealths. In addition to the Toll Fellows Program, CSG provides legislative training, research information, and multi-state problem-solving opportunities for state governments.

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1501 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
(602) 542-9656
FAX (602) 542-9484